

AEROJETP O Box 13222
Sacramento CA 95813-6000

09 May 2000

Mr. Charles Berrey
U.S. EPA (SFD-7-2)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Alexander MacDonald
California Regional Water
Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
3443 Routier Road
Sacramento, CA 95827-3098

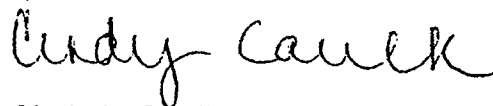
Mr. Duncan Austin
State of California
Department of Toxic
Substances Control
10151 Croydon Way
Sacramento, CA 95827

RE: California Department of Health Services Letter on Reuse of Treated Groundwater

Dear Mr. Berrey, Mr. MacDonald, and Mr. Austin:

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter from the California Department of Health Services to Aerojet regarding the reuse of treated groundwater as considered by the Western Groundwater Operable Unit Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. I can be reached at (916) 355-2601 with any questions you have regarding the enclosure.

Sincerely,



Cindy L. Caulk
Consent Decree Program
Coordinator

Enclosure

cc: JN Uranga, Esq., Aerojet
LA Hobel, Esq., Heller, Ehrman White & McAuliffe

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P Street
P.O. BOX 942732
SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320
(916) 322-2308

**RECEIVED**

MAY 3 5 2000

CHRIS W. CONLEY

May 3, 2000

Mr. Chris W. Conley
Vice President
Environment, Health and Safety
GenCorp
P.O. Box 537012
Sacramento, CA 95853-7012

Dear Mr. Conley:

This is in response to your letter regarding the reuse of treated groundwater which I understand has been identified as a potential option in the "Draft Western Groundwater Operable Unit (WGOU) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study". In your letter you expressed concern about the comments made by Jess Morehouse, District Engineer in the Department of Health Services' (Department), Drinking Water Program Sacramento District Office. You indicated that Mr. Morehouse had stated in his comments on the "Draft Study" that the Department's Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management will not approve reuse of the treated groundwater as a source of domestic water supply which you find to be inconsistent with existing Department guidance specifically Department policy memo 97-005.

Upon receipt of your letter I discussed the issue with Mr. Morehouse. Mr. Morehouse indicated to me that it was not his intention to preclude the option of reusing the treated groundwater as a source of domestic water supply. Mr. Morehouse was only reflecting the Department's position that we do not provide our assessment of the acceptability of such projects until we have determined whether or not the proposed project meets the criteria set forth in the Department's policy memo 97-005.

As I am sure you are aware there are many issues that the Department will need to address as we evaluate the reuse option. We have already begun the evaluation of the treatment facility that is being proposed for use at the Baldwin Park Operable Unit (BPOU) in southern California and which we understand will be similar to the treatment facility planned for the WGOU. Several of my staff including Mr. Morehouse and I recently toured the pilot treatment facility at GenCorp's Rancho Cordova site and

Mr. Chris W. Conley

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discussed the operation of the treatment facility with staff from GenCorp and Harding-Lawson, the consulting engineering firm operating the facility. Pursuant to our agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency we hope to make a decision on the proposed BPOU treatment facility within the next few months. Once that decision is made we will be in a position to discuss the possibility for reuse at the WGOU.

I hope that I have clarified our position on the reuse of the contaminated groundwater to be treated at the WGOU. If you have any additional questions, please contact me at (916) 322-2308.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David P. Spath". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "S".

David P. Spath, Ph.D., P.E., Chief
Division of Drinking Water and
Environmental Management

cc: Jess Morehouse
Bert Ellsworth
Cliff Sharpe
Gary Yamamoto